

1995

May 30, 1995

Staff Senate

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STAFF SENATE

Minutes of May 30, 1995 (Vol. 2, No. 18)

(Minutes are on GOPHER)

Minutes of June 12, 1995

and TRN@eiu.min

The meeting was called to order by Staff Senate President Bingham-Porter at 9:00 a.m., Schaher Room, Union.

Present: Sandy Bingham-Porter, Jean Liggett, Teresa Sims, Kathy Cartwright, Vickie Gilbert, Bev Pederson, Anita Thomas, Bob Thomas, Marsha Duncan, Adam Due, Jeanne Simpson, John Flynn, Arlene Kraft, Wayne Bosler, Lynn Kimbrough
Absent: Dennis Jones, Vilma Robinson
Visitors: Elmer Voudrie, Terry Tomer, Gail Mason

I. Correspondence

- A. President's Council Minutes: May 18, 1995.
- B. Newspaper articles on public perception of Foundation Board's no-confidence vote in President Jorns' fund-raising leadership.

II. New Business

- A. Discussion was extensive on the Foundation Board's no-confidence vote in President Jorns' fund-raising leadership. Several options as to what action should be taken by the Staff Senate. Motion to submit a resolution (Simpson/Flynn) on the Staff Senate position; amendment to resolution (Liggett/A. Thomas) to the BGU was passed.

After considerable debate on the language, a committee was formed to do the language. The committee will be Senators Bingham-Porter, Simpson, Flynn, and Liggett. The resolution will be submitted for all members to approve or disapprove. The committee met immediately after the meeting was adjourned and Senator Jones assisted with the language.

Motion (A. Thomas/Cartwright) to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Next Meeting for Staff Senate, June 12, 1995, BOG Room of the Library, 1:00-3:00 p.m.; ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN.

Meeting Schedule for Staff Senate, BOG Room of Library, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

June 26, 1995

July 12, 1995

July 26, 1995

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Liggett, Staff Senate Secretary

June 12, 1995 Meeting

Present: Sandy Bingham-Porter, Jean Liggett, Jeanne Simpson, Kathy Cartwright, Teresa Sims, Vickie Gilbert, Bev Pederson, Wayne Bosler, Adam Due, Lynn Kimbrough, Dennis Jones, Vilma Robinson, Marsha Duncan, Bob Thomas, Anita Thomas, Arlene Kraft
Absent: John Flynn
Visitors: Terry Tomer, Jill Nilsen, Chris Merrifield, Julie Abell, VPBA Olsen

Motion (Jones/Kraft) to approve minutes from May 22, 1995 meeting. Motion passed.

I. Correspondence

- A. Faculty Senate Resolution
- B. Civil Service Council Resolution
- C. Letter from Mark Haines asking for Commencement help. August 6, 2:00 p.m. is Commencement. Please call Mark Haines if you are willing to help.

II. Old Business

- A. Search Committees

Human Resources (Due) - The committee is on schedule and the first interview of candidates will be June 22. Please watch for the schedules.
- B. Civil Service recognition for education achievement. Senator Duncan will forward the Civil Service Council draft to President Bingham-Porter.
- C. Nominations for Officers were taken. Senator Bingham-Porter was nominated for President. Senator Kimbrough moved/Senator B. Thomas seconded that the nominations be closed. Motion carried. Senator Sims was nominated for Vice-President. Senator Bosler moved/Senator A. Thomas seconded that the nominations be closed. Motion carried. Senator Liggett was nominated for Secretary. Senator Sims moved/Senator Kimbrough seconded that the nominations be closed. Motion carried. Senator Cartwright was nominated for Treasurer. Senator Simpson moved/Senator Bosler seconded that the nominations be closed. Motion carried. Motion (Simpson/Kimbrough) to elect the officers by acclimation. Motion carried.
- D. Staff Senate Resolution regarding President Jorns and the Foundation Board was discussed. Senator Simpson stated that her constituents were still deliberating. Senator Sims stated that 1271 responses for her were to take out #2 altogether, say nothing, or remove 2nd sentence in #2; Senator Liggett stated that responses to her were for strong support of the President or the rewrite of #2; Senator A. Thomas stated that responses to her were to rewrite #3 or leave as it is. Senator Jones stated his constituents wanted to do nothing. Senator Cartwright stated that her constituents wanted the Senate to take a stronger stand. Senator B. Thomas stated that his constituents didn't like #2 and did not want the Senate to take a stand. Senator Due stated that his constituents wanted to use #3 only and were not in favor of taking a position. Senator Bingham-Porter received an e-mail stating that the individual was stopping his/her monthly contribution until the Foundation Board gets it house in order. Mr. Tomer stated that the resolution should not be based on support or non-support of the President. Discussion on media coverage, state wide coverage, and campus coverage and other comments from other groups supporting Jorns in general was held. Questions were asked about when the President and Foundation Board were meeting and if the meetings were open to the public. The next meeting between the President and Foundation Board will be June 16, 1995 at 9:00 a.m in the Scharer Room, Union. Senator Jones will contact VPIA Falk and ask if the meetings are open. Motion (Bosler/Kraft) that the Staff Senate adopt the resolution that states:

"The Staff Senate which represents over 1200 Eastern Illinois University employees resolves that:

 - 1. The welfare of the University as a whole is being affected adversely by the current dispute between the Foundation Board and the President of the University.
 - 2. All parties set aside personal differences and resolve the issues with the best interests of the University, students, and staff in mind."

Motion passed: 14 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention. Senator Simpson asked that her abstention be explained as she did not have a clear enough mandate from her constituents. The resolution will be sent to the names that were on the Faculty Senate resolution plus Representatives Duane Nolan and Charles Hartke.

III. Reports

- A. Staff Senate Committee Reports
 - 1. Development Advisory Committee (Jones)

The remodeling of Buzzard is \$1.5 million over budget. There will be a 1 to 6 month delay. The Human Performance Lab has received \$95,000 in pledges or cash. For this fiscal year

\$2,293,967 has been received. The Redden Estate has established awards for faculty grants. The 2nd Century Project has reached 88% of its goal of \$25,000,000 and will continue until the end of 1995. 2nd Century has raised \$22,050,000.

2. Parking Appeals Committee: (A. Thomas) Senator Thomas has resigned and asked someone else to assume this committee assignment.

IV. New Business

A. Ms. Chris Merrifield, Governmental Liaison Report

The legislature adjourned in May with a 4.9% increase in budget with salary increases of 3.3% built in. Chris stated that her job was to get EIU's message out to 177 members and to meet with as many as possible. When the legislature is out of session she is meeting with alumni and legislators. EIU has to compete with the other Universities for funds. There is concern about transition funding and in the Fall session she will work on securing transition funds. Senator Jones asked what the legislators do when they are not in session. Ms. Merrifield stated that generally these are part time jobs and when they are not in session they work on local issues and come to Springfield from time to time for consultation on various issues. Senator Jones stated that he had asked a couple of legislators to come to EIU and they expressed an interest in visiting.

Senator Sims wanted to know if the sick-leave buyout would come up again as she received a letter from Senator Woodyard stating that this issue was "dead." Ms. Merrifield stated that it probably will come up again in the Spring session. The IBHE will probably try to continue to push for doing away with this. The trend in Springfield at present is not to single out 1 group like the University employees but to make it applicable for everyone.

Ms. Merrifield stated that the "Optional Retirement Bill" was on the Governor's desk. It would allow employees to be a part of another retirement program other than SURS. Senator Sims asked what would happen to those who are already retired. Ms. Merrifield stated that it shouldn't hurt those already retired. Details are not all worked out. The University will have to make a decision on how things are to be worked out. VPBA Olsen stated that there will be a window of time to continue with SURS or go to optional plan but individuals can not go back and forth between two plans. Individuals would leave money in SURS and start over. The State of Illinois is funding 7.6% of the optional plan. The State is funding the person, not the plan. SURS has a formula that is used to determine payouts and has an unfunded liability. The Optional plan as defined has no unfunded liability. People who would go to this plan would probably be individuals who are starting out or have moved into the state. Mr. Tomer asked if the funding contribution was different for each. VPBA Olsen stated that the funding level of contribution was basically the same. Mr. Tomer asked if the State was making the contribution now. VPBA Olsen stated that there is a bill to rectify the contribution over the next 50 years. Senator Bosler stated that SURS is to be fully vested in 7 years and asked if the Option Plan is to be fully vested in 5 years. Dr. Olsen stated that the bill requires the Option Plan to be fully vested in 5 years. Senator Jones asked if an individual contributes for a certain number of years is the plan fully vested. Dr. Olsen said yes. Senator Bingham-Porter asked if an individual could be in both. Dr. Olsen said no. Mr. Tomer asked if an individual could take their money out of SURS. Dr. Olsen stated that there are questions. Ms. Merrifield stated that this dialogue will continue as it is administered and there are questions that will have to be answered. Senator Due asked about another fund for police. Ms. Merrifield stated that police have been moved to the Public Relations Board and is on a schedule for Dr. Olsen and Ms. Merrifield to discuss. Mr. Tomer stated that TMJ insurance covers everyone but state employees.

Senator Bingham-Porter wanted to know if the Governor can veto an amendment. The Governor has line item veto on budget items, but must veto entire bill, he can not veto just the amendment.

Senator Bingham-Porter asked about the Early Retirement 10 + 30 bill. Ms. Merrifield stated that she expects some version to come back up either in the Fall or Spring session.

Ms. Merrifield stated that there were insurance bills that would affect employees if signed: life insurance for dependent coverage; insurance for dependent children up to \$5,000; health insurance for child not own; and fine for handicapped parking to \$100.

Ms. Merrifield stated that she reads all bills. Senator Jones asked how many bills are in a session.

There are 3,500 to 3,600 bills; 450-475 pieces of legislation get to the Governor's desk; Ms. Merrifield tracked about 125 bills this session.

Senator Jones asked if the state budget was in 1 piece of legislation or in separate bills. Ms. Merrifield stated that they start out as separate pieces of legislation and then are put into one bill. The Governor signed 1 piece of legislation for the budget. There was no Capitol Funding in this budget. In the Fall session this will probably be looked at.

Mr. Tomer asked since there was difference between the allocation funds and the needed transition actual cost what would happen. Ms. Merrifield stated that she will continue to work to get the transition money we need.

- B. Senator Liggett asked if there were any names for the renaming of the BOG Room. Senator Simpson suggested that the room be renamed the "Excellence Room" in honor of those who have won awards such as "Employee of the Year." Senator Bingham-Porter will forward this suggestion to President Jorns.
- C. Next meeting items.
 - 1. Committee reassignments.
 - 2. Next meeting June 26, 1995 1-3 BOG Room, Library.

V. Motion (A. Thomas/Bosler) to adjourn at 2:40 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting schedule for Staff Senate, BOG Room of Library, 1:00-3:00 p.m.; ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN.
July 12, 1995
July 26, 1995

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Liggett, Staff Senate Secretary